Consideration of the dedication of the Sally Reahard Woods at Mosquito Creek Nature Preserve in Harrison County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a **657.91 acre** property that is in the southern portion of Harrison County, approximately 2.25 miles east of the town of Laconia. This nature preserve protects an example of a high quality limestone glade complex community and located within the Mitchel Karst Plain Section of the Highland Rim Natural Region.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography that is characterized by rugged sandstone capped hills, limestone bedrock forming cliffs along Mosquito Creek and primarily upland deciduous forest communities. The West Branch of Mosquito Creek, a tributary of the Blue River, passes through the property. The ridges are mainly oak-hickory while beech-maple dominates the ravines.

Noteworthy animal species found in this Nature Preserve include:

Species of Special Concern in Indiana: the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Hooded Warbler, the Sharp-shinned Hawk, and a State Endangered Insect – the Earwig Scorpionfly.

Noteworthy plants found in this Nature Preserve:

Uvularia perfoliata – Bellwort, SE, *Phlox amplifolia*, large-leaved phlox, SR, *Acalypha deamii* – Mercury, SR, *Nothoscordum bivalve* – Crow-poison, SR,

This tract is owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy. Funding from the Indiana Heritage Trust assisted with its acquisition.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

